

Introduction

It's an important religious festival, and the religious leaders want to kill Jesus. Satan enters into Judas and he betrays Jesus to the leaders.

Washing feet

Jesus sits down to the festival meal with His followers. He knows that God has given Him all authority, and He knows what will happen. He washes His followers' feet.

Why He washed

Jesus tells His followers: Your Master has washed your feet – and you should follow His example. No slave is greater than his master.



Jesus sends Judas away

Jesus knows that one of His followers will betray Him, and He says that it is the person He will give the bread to. He gives the bread to Judas and tells him to go do what he has to do. Judas leaves.



Jesus teaches

About friendship: Jesus' followers are His friends because He has made God's will known to them.



About God's Spirit: He is also sending God's Spirit to them to remind them of what He has taught them.

About being chosen: We did not choose Him, but He chose and appointed His followers to go and bear fruit.



Conclusion

Jesus and His followers go to a nearby garden to pray.

Weekly Meditation and Reflection

Below are some questions and further reading if you would like some extra food for thought on this story. Some may find it helpful to journal the answers, and others may simply want to read and pray through them.

1. Learn this story. Close your eyes and tell this story to yourself, but put yourself in the place of one of the followers who were there on that night. Walk through the story in your mind. It's an important religious festival, and Jerusalem is full of people and full of excitement at this time of year. Hear the commotion around you. Feel the holiday excitement. Sit down to the meal with Jesus and your other friends. Jesus seems quiet and thoughtful tonight. Suddenly, as you're sitting there, Jesus gets up, gets a bowl of water and a towel and comes over to you. He begins to wash your feet. What do you do? What do you say? How do you feel? Jesus goes from one of your friends to the next. The silence is awkward. What is He doing? Isn't He your master? Jesus finishes, and He begins speaking. Go through His teaching in this story as if He is talking to you personally. Then Jesus says, "You didn't choose Me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and bear lasting fruit. ..." Stop right there. Jesus is talking to you. He chose *you*. He appointed *you*. He has fruit for *you* to produce. Let that truth wash over you. Thank Him for it.

Meditate on the following passages:

- John 3:31-36
- Try reading all of John 13-17, and soak in Jesus' heart for His followers – including you and me!